

September 6, 1955

HIM

This letter is intended to keep you informed of our progress on the several pending contract change proposals. It is not an official request for action but more of a request for advice as to how you would like us to proceed.

The contract proposal change No. 1 covering ground support and test site equipment has now been revised and an additional document containing a description of the operations and equipment has been prepared. This additional document goes into some considerable detail as to the philosophy which is to be carried out at the various operating bases and examination of the type of equipment and their expected uses. I believe there is quite general agreement on most of the items but there are still a few to be resolved. The areas of change between the present proposal and the previously submitted one are as follows:

Items 5.2 and 5.2.1 involve the transport of film. We recommend that boxes be constructed which will provide insulation against dust and moisture and some thermal lagging. Under our new concept of the operation, we do not feel that heat, cooling and additional moisture control are required. We recommend that the boxes be of such size as to contain two spools of "C" size, or two of "B" size, or six of A-2, or eight of A-1. A single box with a different set of inserts would provide this flexibility. The overall box might be 3x3x5 feet and weigh about 350 lbs. We recommend that EK provide these boxes and whatever internal packaging of the film that might be required. The boxes should certainly be reuseable, at least to the extent of transport of unexposed film going out and the same film exposed coming back. Construction permitting additional round trips is to be desired. The present change order proposal does not include the cost of these boxes. We are willing to provide them if this appears more feasible than having EK do it. We still feel that transport cases of about the same size for loaded magazines and cassettes should be supplied. These would be waterproof and insulated but not containing heating or cooling machinery. The cost of these tote boxes is included.

*EK does this*

The next item open to question in change order proposal No. 1 is processing equipment for base dark rooms. There is no question that under the present concept a machine for developing, drying and printing 70 mm film is required. We feel that an additional piece of equipment for the controlled development of test film 9½" wide is also required. A B-5 developer and A-10 drier is an interim possibility. This equipment is available, I understand, on the surplus market and after experience at the test site, we might recommend that additional units be obtained for the operation of the bases. A decision on this point is urgently needed. The cost of such equipment is not included in the change order proposal as now submitted.

The next item is the 70mm viewer. While we have discussed this to a considerable extent, no decision as yet has been made. The subcontractor is willing to design and develop this, and to this end they are preparing a proposal. On the other hand, they report it will seriously overload their facilities and will be well-pleased if an alternate source could be developed. EK has expressed an interest

CONTAINS SENSITIVE  
COMPARTMENTED INFORMATION

DOCUMENT NO. 275  
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. (1)  
IT IS DECLASSIFIED  
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS (S) C 2011  
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AUTH. HR 702

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in providing this piece of equipment, and I suggest a proposal be requested from them to be compared with the one which we would submit. The price of this equipment is not included in the present proposal.

The last item concerns the equipment transport dolly. This was originally conceived as a half-ton trailer modified for the particular equipment but with the clarification of the nature of the operations, it is now felt that a dolly specifically designed for an installation and pre-flight check out equipment would be a cheaper and more satisfactory approach to the problem. This would be similar in construction to the dollies now being constructed for the support of each specific configuration. The new proposal including the modifications described above has the following price.

Manufacture of the itemized equipment . . .	\$201,187.
Charge for systems engineering . . . . .	10,000.
Equipment for the test site itself, support and operation for the period of the tests. . . . .	<u>122,700.</u>

Price of Change Order Proposal No. 1 as now proposed.. \$333,887.

Since time is becoming quite short, I request an early examination and approval of this change order proposal. If this proves satisfactory, I will prepare and submit to you a letter similar to and replacing our letter of July 11.



RMS/dmg